

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 13 and 14, to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A document processing apparatus comprising:  
document obtaining means for obtaining a document written in a predetermined markup language from a designated source;  
rule identification information extraction means for extracting rule identification information from a predetermined tag in the document obtained by said document obtaining means;  
rule selecting means for selecting a rule corresponding to the extracted rule identification information from among a plurality of rules based on the extracted rule identification information stored in a rule memory, each of the plurality of rules specifying respective sections of voice output contents and voice input candidates in the obtained document, and said rule selecting means selecting a predetermined one of the plurality of rules if the predetermined tag is not contained in the obtained document;  
document analyzing means for analyzing the document obtained by said document obtaining means based on the rule selected by said rule selecting means to extract voice output contents, voice input candidates, and designation information for designating a next processing object corresponding to each voice input candidate, from the respective sections of the obtained document specified by the rule selected by said rule selecting means;  
voice output means for voice-outputting the voice output contents extracted by said document analyzing means;

voice recognizing means for voice-recognizing a voice input by a user; and control means for checking the result of recognition by said voice recognizing means against the input candidates extracted by said document analyzing means to control obtaining of a new document by said document obtaining means or next analysis by said document analyzing means based on a next processing object designated by designation information corresponding to an input candidate matching the recognition result.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said rule identification information is a predetermined attribute value of a predetermined tag.

4. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said rule selecting means selects a predetermined rule if said rule identification information extraction means cannot extract the rule identification information from the obtained document.

5. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said document analyzing means extracts as the designation information a source from which a next document is obtained.

6. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said document analyzing means extracts an analyzed range of a next document as the designation information.

7. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said rule selecting means selects a rule based on instructions from the user.

8. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein a priority is given to a predetermined one of the rules based on the user's instructions and the rule based on the rule identification information extracted by said rule identification information extraction means, and said rule selecting means selects the rule to which the priority is given.

9. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of rules includes a rule which defines a predetermined attribute value of a predetermined tag as voice output contents, and contents surrounded by predetermined second tags as input candidates, in the document.

10. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein in the rule, if the recognition result matches an input candidate, contents ranging from the contents surrounded by said second predetermined tags which correspond to the

input candidate up to a third predetermined tag are defined as next voice output contents, and an anchor in the voice output contents is defined as a next input candidate.

11. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of rules includes a rule which defines contents ranging from the head of the document to a predetermined tag as voice output contents, and an anchor in the voice output contents as an input candidate.

12. (Previously Presented) The document processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the voice input and voice output are performed through a telephone line.

13. (Currently Amended) A document processing method comprising:  
a document obtaining step of obtaining a document written in a predetermined markup language from a designated source;  
a rule identification information extraction step of extracting rule identification information from a predetermined tag in the document obtained in said document obtaining step;  
and  
a rule selecting step for selecting a rule corresponding to the extracted rule identification information from among a plurality of rules based on the extracted rule identification information stored in a rule memory, each of the plurality of rules specifying respective sections of voice output contents and voice input candidates in the obtained document,

and a predetermined one of the plurality of rules being selected in said rule selecting step if the predetermined tag is not contained in the obtained document;

a document analyzing step of analyzing the document obtained in said document obtaining step based on the rule selected in said rule selecting step to extract voice output contents, voice input candidates, and designation information for designating a next processing object corresponding to each voice input candidate, from the respective sections of the obtained document specified by the rule selected in said rule selecting step;

a voice outputting step of voice-outputting the voice output contents extracted in said document analyzing step;

a voice recognizing step of voice-recognizing a voice input from a user; and

a control step of checking the result of recognition obtained in said voice recognizing step against the input candidates extracted in said document analyzing step to control obtaining of a new document in said document obtaining step or next analysis in said document analyzing step based on a next processing object designated by designation information corresponding to an input candidate matching the recognition result.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer-executable program, embodied in a computer-readable medium, for controlling a computer to perform document processing, said program comprising codes for causing the computer to perform:

a document obtaining step of obtaining a document written in a predetermined markup language from a designated source;

a rule identification information extraction step of extracting rule identification information from a predetermined tag in the document obtained in said document obtaining step; and

a rule selecting step for selecting a rule corresponding to the extracted rule identification information from among a plurality of rules based on the extracted rule identification information stored in a rule memory, each of the plurality of rules specifying respective sections of voice output contents and voice input candidates in the obtained document, and a predetermined one of the plurality of rules being selected in said rule selecting step if the predetermined tag is not contained in the obtained document;

a document analyzing step of analyzing the document obtained in said document obtaining step based on the rule selected in said rule selecting step to extract voice output contents, voice input candidates, and designation information for designating a next processing object corresponding to each voice input candidate, from the respective sections of the obtained document specified by the rule selected in said rule selecting step;

a voice outputting step of voice-outputting the voice output contents extracted in said document analyzing step;

a voice recognizing step of voice-recognizing a voice input from a user; and a control step of checking the result of recognition obtained in said voice recognizing step against the input candidates extracted in said document analyzing step to control obtaining of a new document in said document obtaining step or next analysis in said document analyzing step based on a next processing object designated by designation information corresponding to an input candidate matching the recognition result.

15. (Original) A computer-readable storage medium for storing the program according to claim 14.